GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants - Commercial Taxes Department - Surprise check conducted on the Integrated Check-Post, Naraharipet, Chittoor district on 29.12.2013 - Allegation of corruption and misconduct under APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 - Initiated common disciplinary proceedings under Rule 24 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991 - Article of charges framed - Inquiry Authority appointed - Inquiry Report submitted - Communicated - Penalty of withholding two annual grade increments without cumulative effect on (07) officials viz., Sri Gangala Suresh Babu, ACTO and (06) others officials imposed under Rule 9 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991 - Orders - Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-VI) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 1554 Dated: 09-12-2025

Read the following:-

1. From the DG, ACB, Lr.Rc.No.55/DE-S-TCT/2013-S7, dated 12.02.2015.
2. G.O.Ms.No.155, Revenue (Vigilance-II) Dept., dated 04.05.2015.
3. G.O.Rt.Nos.368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377 and 378, Revenue (Vigilance-II) Dept., dated 04.05.2015.
4. G.O.Rt.No.543, Revenue (Vigilance-II) Dept., dated 02.05.2019.
5. G.O.Rt.No.989, Revenue (Vigilance-II) Dept., dated 30.09.2019.
6. G.O.Rt.No.540, Revenue (Vigilance-II) Dept., dated 03.09.2021.
7. From the CCST's, Lr.Ref.No.V2/235/2015, dated 10.03.2022.
8. Govt.Memo.No.CCST0CCTV (ACBC)/3/2019-VIG-II-4, dated 24.11.2022.
9. From the CCST's, Lr.Ref.No.V2/235/2015, dated 02.05.2025 along with served copies and written representations of the Charged Officers.

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ORDER:

Whereas, in the reference 1st read above, the Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau has informed that on credible information that the officials and staff of Integrated Check-Post, Naraharipet, Chittoor district were indulging in corrupt practices and collecting bribe amounts from the drivers of the vehicles passing through the check-post, a surprise check was conducted on the Integrated Check-Post, Naraharipet, Chittoor district on 29.12.2013 and the counters maintained by Commercial Tax Department and other Department and found certain irregularities and recommended to initiate departmental action for major penalty against ten (10) Suspected Officers of Commercial Taxes Department and one (01) Prohibition and Excise Department viz., 1) Sri I.V.Ranga Rao, Dy.CTO & AO now retired (SO-1); 2) Sri Gangala Suresh Babu, ACTO (SO-2); 3) Sri Arani Gopal, ACTO now retired (SO-3); 4) Sri Nagarajan Palani, Sr.Assistant and ACTO (FAC) (SO-4); 5) Sri S.Venugopal Prasad, Sr.Assistant (SO-5); 6) Sri N.Chandrasekhar Yoganandam, Sr.Assistant (SO-6); 7) Sri V.Purushothama Naidu, Jr.Assistant (SO-7); 8) Sri Syed Abdul Gafaar, Office Subordinate, now retired (SO-8); 9) Sri Satram Rama Krishna, Office Subordinate (SO-9); 10) Sri K.Subramanyam Pillai, Hamali, now retired (SO-10); and 11) Sri G.P.Vijaya Kumar, Prohibition and Excise Inspector (SO-11) respectively for violation of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

2. Whereas, in the reference 2nd read above, Government initiated common disciplinary proceedings against ten (10) Suspected Officer of Commercial Taxes Department and one (01) other Department of Prohibition and Excise Department viz., 1) Sri I.V.Ranga Rao, Dy.CTO & AO (SO-1); 2) Sri Gangala Suresh Babu, ACTO (SO-2); 3) Sri Arani Gopal, ACTO (SO-3); 4) Sri Nagarajan Palani, Sr.Assistant and ACTO (FAC) (SO-4); 5) Sri S.Venugopal Prasad, Sr.Assistant (SO-5); 6) Sri N.Chandrasekhar Yoganandam, Sr.Assistant (SO-6); 7) Sri V.Purushothama Naidu, Jr.Assistant (SO-7); 8) Sri Syed Abdul Gafaar, Office Subordinate (SO-8); 9) Sri Satram Rama Krishna, Office Subordinate (SO-9); 10) Sri K.Subramanyam Pillai, Hamali (SO-10); and 11) Sri G.P.Vijaya Kumar, Prohibition and Excise Inspector (SO-11) respectively under Rule 24 of A.P.Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991. Whereas, in the reference 3rd read above, Article of

Charges were framed against each of them under Rule 20 of A.P.Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 respectively for the irregularities noticed during the surprise check conducted on 29.12.2013.

3. Whereas, the Charged Officers submitted their Written Statement of Defenses to the Government denying the charges. After following due procedure, in the reference 4th read above, Government appointed Sri C.R.Rajendran, Assistant Commissioner (ST), Chittoor as Inquiring Authority to inquire into the charges framed against the Charged Officers. In the reference 5th read above, Government have appointed Sri V.Giridhara, Inspector of Police, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Tirupati Range, Tirupati as Presenting Officer to present the case on behalf of the Disciplinary Authority in support of the Articles of Charges framed against the Charged Officers. In the reference 6th read above, Government issued orders appointing Sri P.Nagendra, Inspector of Police, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Tirupati Range as Presenting Officer to present the case before the Inquiring Authority on behalf of the Disciplinary Authority in the place of Sri V.Giridhara, Inspector of Police, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Tirupati Range, Tirupati in support of the Articles of Charges framed against the Charged Officers.

4. Whereas, in the reference 7th read above, the Chief Commissioner of State Tax has furnished the Inquiry Report along with his findings submitted by Sri C.R.Rajendran, former Asst.Commissioner (CT), Chittoor Division, presently Joint Commissioner (ST), (retired), O/o.Appellate Deputy Commissioner (CT), Tirupati on the allegations against eleven (11) Charged Officers to the Government stating that the case was not warranted, if, enquiry report was accepted. The charges framed against the Charged Officers are not proved in the Inquiry. After examining the Inquiry Report, Government have disagreed with the findings of the Inquiry Authority as follows:-

> *"It is an undisputed fact that unaccounted money was seized in the office premises and there is no satisfactory reason furnished for the same. Further, as per Rule 4(1) of A.P.C.S.(Conduct) Rules, 1964, absence from duty or work without permission is violation of conduct Rules. Hence, the Charged Officers, who have been absent from Duty on the day of surprise check and have applied leave subsequently, is the afterthought of the concerned charged officers."*

5. Accordingly, in the reference 8th read above, the Inquiry Report along with disagreement factors have been communicated to all the Charged Officers under Rule 21(2) of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991 with a direction to submit their written representations on the findings of the Inquiry Officer and the disagreement factors within the prescribed time.

6. Whereas, in the reference 9th read above, the Chief Commissioner of State Tax, A.P., has stated that the Joint Commissioner (ST), Chittoor Nodal Division, Chittoor has submitted the served copies of Inquiry Report along with representations of the eleven (11) Charged Officers and further explanations of the Charged Officers forwarded to the Government for taking further action in the matter. The Charged Officers submitted their written explanations and requested to drop further action against them in the matter.

7. Government, have examined the written explanations submitted by all the Charged Officers on the disagreement factors communicated by the disciplinary authority and felt that, it is inconceivable that the transporters would offer cash on their own in a routine manner, unless the corrupt practice is put in place by the check post staff and as such, it is held that they are collectively responsible for this activity, though it is not possible to pinpoint the guilt of any single Accused Officer. Further the written explanations submitted by the Charged Officers are not convincing and not put forth any new grounds.

8. Government, after careful examination of Inquiry Report and written explanations submitted by Charged Officers to the disagreement factors on the findings of the Inquiry Officer and in view of the material available on record, hereby order to impose the penalty of withholding of two annual grade increments

without cumulative effect on (07) officials viz., (i) Sri Gangala Suresh Babu, ACTO (SO-2); (ii) Sri Nagarajan Palani, Sr.Asst., and ACTO (FAC) (SO-4); (iii) Sri S.V.Prasad, Sr.Asst.(SO-5); (iv) Sri N.C.Yoganandam, Sr.Asst.(SO-6), (v) Sri V.Purushotham Naidu, Jr.Asst.(SO-7); (vi) Sri S.Ramakrishna, Office Subordinate (SO-9) and (vii) Sri G.P.Vijaya Kumar, Prohibition & Excise Inspector (SO-11) respectively.

9. The Chief Commissioner of State Tax, Andhra Pradesh, Kunchanapalli, Guntur shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

PEEYUSH KUMAR
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The individuals concerned (through the Chief Commissioner of State Tax, Andhra Pradesh, Kunchanapalli, Guntur district)
The Chief Commissioner of State Tax, Andhra Pradesh, Kunchanapalli, Guntur district
The Revenue (Prohibition and Excise) Department

Copy to:-
The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh Vigilance Commission, for favour of information
The Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada, for favour of information
SF/SCs (Computer No.868141)

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER